

Talking Points
Toyota Auto Body groundbreaking
Monday, December 10, 2007

- On September 25, I had the pleasure of announcing that Toyota Auto Body Co. (TAB) would build its newest manufacturing facility – the company’s first in the U.S. – here in Baldwin.
- It was big news all across the automotive world that TAB would invest some \$200 million, open in 2010, and employ 400 people in good-paying new jobs as a major supplier to Toyota’s Highlander SUV plant being built down the road in Blue Springs.
- Today, in true Toyota fashion less than 90 days after a site was announced, we’re here to break ground. It’s another sign of this outstanding company’s desire to move its Mississippi production operation forward.

- During my first term, I emphasized job creation and economic growth, re-tooled the state's economic development programs, and encouraged creation of new partnerships that are leading to tremendous progress in Mississippi.
- Today, more Mississippians are working and earning more money on average than ever.
- The fact that Toyota Auto Body chose the United States, this state, this town and this site is very strong evidence we're on the right track.
- Mississippi is truly filled with opportunity, and as long as I'm Governor we will work aggressively in all sectors of the economy to pursue the kinds of new jobs that help our people achieve their hopes and dreams.

- Of course, nothing breeds success like success. So, I salute Toyota Auto Body on this significant occasion and look forward to a long, fruitful relationship with one of our newest corporate citizens.
- Thank you.